Rt. 21, Frederick, Md. 21701
9/30/75

Ms. Esther Kartiganer
CBS News
524 W. 57 St.,
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Esther,

I don't know when I got as much kick out of a newscast than from tonight's airing of the Lane foolishness of an FBI telex and the newest stuffing of the Fred Graham shirt. None of these poeple have the slightest idea what he is talking about and each for his own reason could not care less.

However, each is also ridiculous and I look forward to CBS's airing of this testimonial to its journalistic standards and capabilities.

I never paid any attention to the story. I've known for a little while that your people were dealing with Lane and tonight confirmed my suspicions about why. If I was not in New Orleans when Walters told Lane some kind of story - taking Lane's version is risky and Garrison's riskier - I was there not long afterward. I have some recollections. Some came back after another reporter asked me about it a day or two ago and more prior to night's broadcast when I was asked about it today.

So your great investigative reporters on their own, quite independently, found The Source and filmed him. And then they got this definitie denial from no less than the FBI.

I don't want to embarrass you with knowledge. All I tell you is that I enjoyed it much and look forward to more pleasure from all of this.

This is not to be cryptic or to play games. I took time to do some thinking. I wrote Midgley a letter. I think that anyone who mentions my name to his risks summary dismissal.

Besides, as I told you, after doing all this work without income for so many years I have no intention of giving it away. I just might be tempted after the show is aired, though. If I don't and it then interests you I'll make a note on my carbon.

Since we spoke we have heard from Ray. He acted on his own, before Jim or I could be in touch with him. By now you should know. I see no conflict between his immediate reaction when he received copies of the CBS papers I still have not seen (and when I'm not as tired now won't want to drop other work to read) and the spontaneous one clear enough in my letter to Rather that still is not even acknowledged. I don't care if it ever is. I did what I felt was an ethical requirement, no more. How others take is does not concern me .I have myself to live with, not a paycheck.

When this is all over, meaning more than the airing of the show, you may be interested in talking to me about this. By then I might forget so I'll annotate the carbon. If the chances are not great, you may have a similar situation in the future.

Nothing personal but the best,

Harold Weisberg

bcc: the Lane/CBS cheap shot has a probable meaning he'd have no way of knowing, being a stranger to work. I wrote about it in 1968 or 9 and am certain that I know what there should have been a telex about. Not the Garrison/Lane nonsense. The second unexplained has to do with the message I first got from Leiser, about wanting to file FOIA suits. Only he never followed it up. It would have been a natural if done honestly and without conflict of interest for me/us/